

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1-6 were previously cancelled. This Amendment amends claims 7-16 and adds new claims 17-25 as follows:

Listing of Claims

Original claims 1-6 (cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A liquid storage~~ An eye drop container comprising:

a container body having a liquid storage portion for containing liquid therein;
and

an instilling portion for allowing the liquid to flow out in an opened stage,
wherein the container body includes an aerating device provided at the bottom thereof and having a filter element and a check valve for allowing ambient air to flow in from the outside and preventing the liquid from flowing out.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the aerating device has a receiving portion contacting a floor surface and supporting the container body.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein a bottom cap is provided for covering the aerating device.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 8, wherein the bottom cap is provided for covering the aerating device.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 9, wherein the bottom cap is formed integrally with the container body to be separable from the container body.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid storage~~ eye drop container as

defined in claim 10, wherein the bottom cap is formed integrally with the container body to be separable from the container body.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid-storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the check valve has a duck-bill type construction including a pair of plate-shaped portions contactable with each other at end portions thereof, and is closed when the pair of plate-shaped portions contact each other at the end portions thereof or opened when the pair of plate-shaped portions are moved away from each other at the end portions thereof.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid-storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 8, wherein the check valve has a duck-bill type construction including a pair of plate-shaped portions contactable with each other at end portions thereof, and is closed when the pair of plate-shaped portions contact each other at the end portions thereof or opened when the pair of plate-shaped portions are moved away from each other at the end portions thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid-storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 7, further comprising a cap attachable to the container body and including an opening member for opening the instilling portion in an unopened stage and a valve member for allowing the liquid to flow out and preventing ambient air from flowing into the container.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~The liquid-storage~~ eye drop container as defined in claim 8, further comprising a cap attachable to the container body and including an opening member for opening the instilling portion in an unopened stage and a valve member for allowing the liquid to flow out and preventing ambient air from flowing into the container.

17. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the filter element is designed not for allowing entry of a source of contamination present in the ambient air.

18. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 8, wherein the filter element is designed not for allowing entry of a source of contamination present in the ambient air.

19. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the aerating device is designed for allowing entry of the ambient air into the liquid storage portion from the outside.

20. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 8, wherein the aerating device is designed for allowing entry of the ambient air into the liquid storage portion from the outside.

21. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 15, wherein the valve element prevents the ambient air from flowing into the container when the valve element is in tight contact with the opening member from its outside and allows the liquid to flow out when the valve element is away from the opening member due to pressure of the liquid.

22. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 16, wherein the valve element prevents the ambient air from flowing into the container when the valve element is in tight contact with the opening member from its outside and allows the liquid to flow out when the valve element is away from the opening member due to pressure of the liquid.

23. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the liquid is allowed to flow out in association with reduction in volume of the container body under the opened stage.

24. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the filter element is designed not for allowing entry of a source of contamination present in the ambient air into the container, and the aerating device is designed for allowing entry of the ambient air into the liquid storage portion from the outside.

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25. (New) The eye drop container as defined in claim 24, wherein the liquid is allowed to flow out in association with reduction in volume of the container body under the opened stage.